

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Enforcement of a 12-Hour Working Day for Dockers of the Gdynia-Gdansk Port Administration	DATE DISTR.	17 March 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCE	

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This is UNEVALUATED
Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Due to the shortage of dockers, the Gdynia-Gdansk Port Administration issued an order extending the dockers' working day to twelve hours as of 1 December 1952, with a very slight rise in their wages. 25X1
2. When the first shift abandoned work after eight hours and the workers began to leave the port, they noticed that all gates were manned by reinforcements of Port Guards and Citizens' Militia. Port administration officials at the gates ordered the workers to return to work. At first they refused to do so, but when they saw that some of those who resisted the order were arrested and packed into trucks of the militia which were standing ready beyond the gates, the men became frightened and returned to work.
3. As a result of these terrorist methods, the port administration has managed to enforce a twelve-hour working day despite the opposition of the dockers.
4. One of the teams sent to recruit men for work in Gdynia-Gdansk Port brought 200 workers from the Bialystok Voivodship. They were promised monthly wages up to 1,200 zloty in addition to board and lodging.
5. When these men reported for work, no housing had been prepared for them and they were told to go and fend for themselves, since the Gdynia-Gdansk Port Administration (Z.P.G.G.) would not pay for their accommodation. As a result, 40 percent of the new recruits did not report for work again, and left Gdynia at once. Some workers were traced in Gdynia by the M.O. (Citizens' Militia), and when interrogated, gave the following reasons for failing to report:
 - a. The working day was 12 hours instead of the eight hours for which they had been engaged.
 - b. The promised free accommodations had not been allocated.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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- c. The food which they were issued on their first day of work was insufficient both in quality and quantity and they were made to pay for it, while they had been engaged on condition that they would be issued free board.
6. Those workers who were caught by the militia were forced to go back to work, but after a few days, some of them escaped again.

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